# ACLU of Idaho Smart Justice Campaign





### **Idaho Smart Justice Blueprint**

- The ACLU's Campaign for Smart Justice is committed to transforming our nation's criminal justice system and building a new vision of safety and justice
- The Smart Justice 50-State Blueprints show how each state can cut the number of people behind bars by half.
- National and state affiliate created an Idaho Specific Blueprint



## **Agenda**

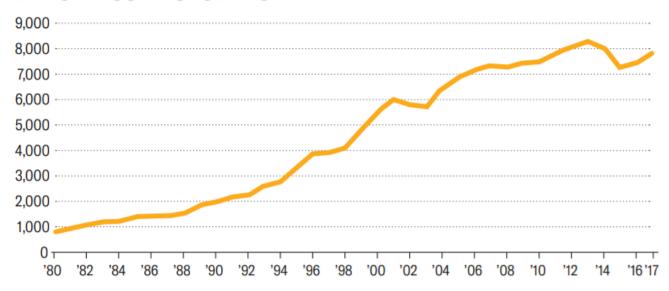
- Review Blueprint findings
  - Growth of Incarceration
  - Idaho's Incarcerated Population: Demographics
- Pathways moving Forward



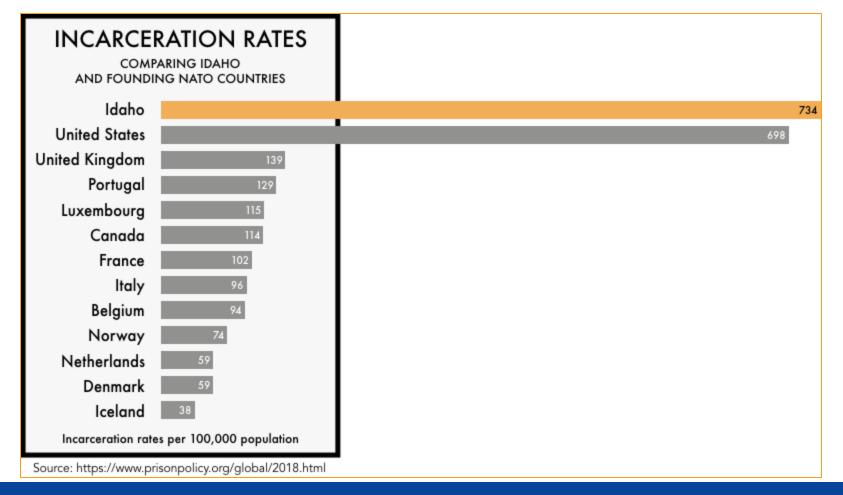
## **Blueprint Data**

## Significant Growth in Carceral Solutions

### IDAHO PRISON POPULATION



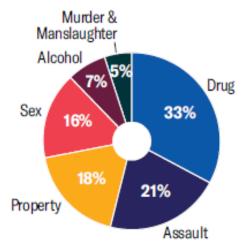






 58% of incarcerated people in Idaho are imprisoned for a nonviolent offense.







#### **Incarcerated Women**

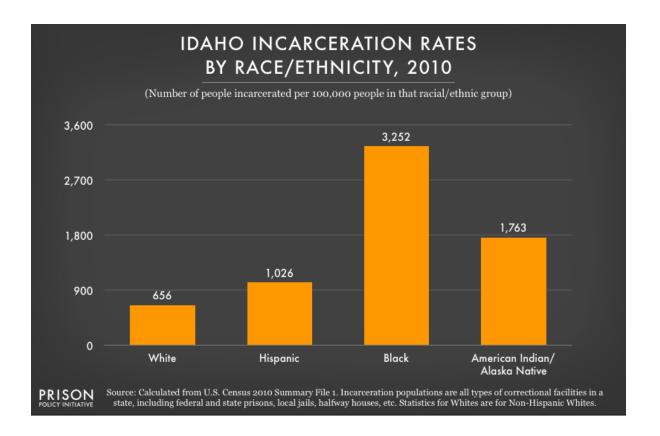
- As of 2017, Idaho had the nation's fourth-highest imprisonment rate among women.
- Most women (54 percent) in prison were under the age of 35
- 12 percent were between the ages of 18 and 24.
- History of Trauma



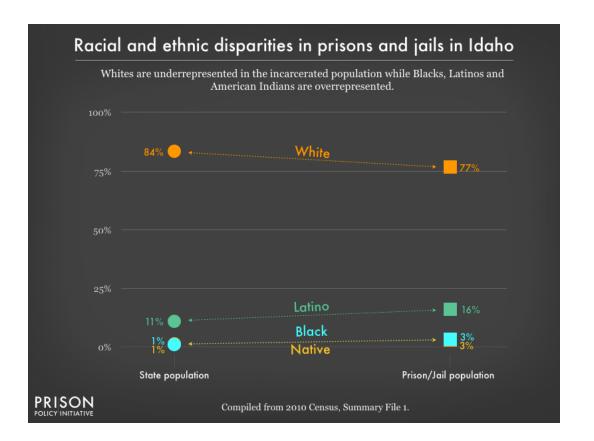
#### **Racial Disparities**

- As of 2014, Idaho had the nation's third-highest Latinx imprisonment rate.
- The imprisonment rate for Native American adults in Idaho was nearly four times that of white adults in 2017.
- In 2017, 1 in 24 Black men in Idaho were in prison.











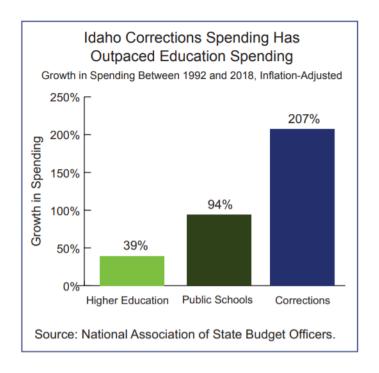
#### **Mental Illness and Substance Abuse**

 As of 2019, IDOC reports that approximately 85 percent of people in Idaho prisons face substance abuse challenges.



### The Cost of Incarceration

- Idaho's general fund corrections spending grew 754 percent between 1985 and 2017.
- In 2017, Idaho spent \$252 million of its general fund on corrections.





## Pathways Moving Forward

### **Decrease Prison and Jail Admissions**

- Expand treatment for substance abuse and mental health
- Allow and expand non-incarceration sentences
- Reduce probation and parole revocations
- Decriminalization
- Eliminate cash bail



### **Ensure Adequate Public Defense**

- Caseload standards
- Pay and resource parity with the prosecutor's office



### **Reduce Time Served**

- Eliminate Mandatory Minimums
- Lower Statutory Maximum for Theft Offenses
- Good Time
- Parole Reform
- Compassionate Release



# Re-Entry Solutions: Fair Chance Employment

Approximately 21 percent of Idahoans have a previous criminal conviction.

Ninety-five percent of people in state prisons will re-enter their community and need to establish meaningful employment in order to build stability and have a successful long-term reentry.



## Fair Chance Employment Act

#### **KEY POINTS:**

- Ensure that Idahoans returning to the workforce post-incarceration are able to access employment opportunities.
- Decrease their likelihood of recidivism, allow them to provide for themselves and their families, and increase their ability to contribute to Idaho's growing economy.

Cultivate untapped talent within our communities.



## **Community Engagement**





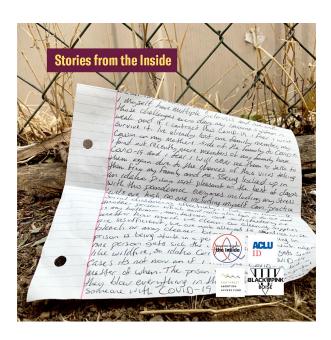






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